

5/6/77

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THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

May 6, 1977

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM:

HUGH CARTER *HC*

SUBJECT:

Weekly Mail Report (Per Your Request)

Below are statistics on the mail situation:

<u>INCOMING</u>	<u>WEEK ENDING 4/29</u>	<u>WEEK ENDING 5/6</u>
Presidential	62,956	51,114 ↓
First Lady	2,617	3,704
Amy	1,700	886
<u>Other First Family</u>	<u>229</u>	<u>129</u>
TOTAL	67,502	55,833

<u>BACKLOG</u>	<u>WEEK ENDING 4/29</u>	<u>WEEK ENDING 5/6</u>
Presidential	25,000	21,000
First Lady	2,000	1,500
Amy	4,000	700
Miss Lillian	1,500	0
<u>Transition</u>	<u>500</u>	<u>0</u>
Total	33,000	23,200 ↓

DISTRIBUTION OF PRESIDENTIAL MAIL ANALYZED

	<u>WEEK ENDING 4/29</u>	<u>WEEK ENDING 5/6</u>
Agency Referrals	64%	60% ↓
WH Correspondence	21%	25% ↗
Direct File	6%	6%
White House Staff	6%	6%
<u>Other</u>	<u>3%</u>	<u>3%</u>
Total	100%	100%

See Notes on Following pages

cc Senior Staff

**Electrostatic Copy Made
for Preservation Purposes**

cc Hugh

MAJOR ISSUES IN
CURRENT PRESIDENTIAL ADULT MAIL
Week Ending 5/6

<u>ISSUE</u>	<u>PRO</u>	<u>CON</u>	<u>COMMENT ONLY</u>	<u>NUMBER OF LETTERS</u>
Pres. Stand on Human Rights	80%	14%	6%	339
Pres. Proposals re: Energy	45%	16%	39%	6211
Pres. Position re: Imports	2%	98%	0%	1174
Support for Increase In Social Security Benefits	80%	2%	18%	662
Amendment to Marine Mammal Protection Act	57%	42%	1%	394
Pres. Cancellation of Tax Rebate	2%	98%	0%	316
Pres. Position re: B-1 Bomber	12%	88%	0%	137 - ?
Pres. Consideration of Amnesty for Illegal Aliens	4%	96%	0%	459
Pres. Position re: Hospital Costs	63%	25%	12%	408
Proposed Move of Power Plant Southern Ohio Project (5 days)	9%	91%	0%	674
Pres. Position re: Aid to Turkey (4 days)	2%	96%	2%	166
Welfare News Conference 5/ 2/77 (4 days)	76%	11%	13%	37
			TOTAL	10,977

MAIL SUMMARY - WEEK ENDING MAY 6, 1977

The following statements are based on debriefings of mail analysts during the week.

WRITERS TIE ENERGY TO ECONOMY, INFLATION

Writers are hitching the issues of inflation and the economy to their energy comments. This mail is highlighted by suggestions, complaints or questions about job security, the auto industry, solar heating, insulation requirements and tax breaks for those who implement energy saving ideas.

Energy related mail is starting to drop off, but it is still the major issue of the week. Referring to recent energy statements, some writers are thanking the President for being the bearer of bad tidings: "It is about time someone did it." Others add that they are relying on President Carter and they back him.

POWER PROJECT PROVOKES PIKE COUNTY RESIDENTS

Most of the letters regarding cancellation of the proposed add-on gaseous diffusion plant at Portsmouth, Ohio have become very critical. People are still hoping the President will follow up on statements made during the Fall campaign, even though newer technology may move the expansion project to Oak Ridge, Tennessee. Some of the people in the area cite "some serious industrial setbacks in recent years." And writers are asking the President not to "take away our only hope of immediate economic relief, even in the name of conservation." Pike County residents maintain that "the President is a man who had made a personal commitment to the economy of this area." The writers are upset and their words are backed with strong emotions.

ENVIRONS, MAMMALS CAUSE CONTROVERSY

Mail continues to arrive concerning the expansion of the Redwood National Park in California. Loggers in the area who need the work are writing, as well as environmentalists who think it is a "crime" to chop down the very tall evergreen trees of coastal California. Environmentalists are also defending Alaskan baby Harp seals and wolves. And worries about the apparent overkilling of dolphins and porpoises by tuna industry fishermen have provoked people to write to the President.

NATION OWES NIXON NOTHING

Former President Nixon is "a man to whom this nation owes NOTHING," says one disgruntled writer. Most of the anti-Nixon mail is written by people who are vehemently opposed to the idea of a President supplying a "criminal" with any CIA information about foreign affairs. One person asks, "why consult a hypocrite?"

MISCELLANEOUS

PRISONERS -- More and more prison inmates are writing to the President requesting pardons.

AMERICANS ABROAD -- Quite a few U.S. citizens residing overseas are voicing strong opposition to Section 10-11 (Title Ten) of the Tax Reform Act of 1976, maintaining that the law supports double taxation and is unfair.

FLOOD AID -- West Virginia Flood victims are censuring the government and, in particular, the Small Business Administration for "high interest rates on disaster loans and red tape."

UFOs -- Letters concerning UFOs have picked up in number since recent articles have been published, quoting the President when he was Governor of Georgia.

HUMAN INTEREST -- Dr. John R. McDermott, of Massachusetts, writes: "Dear Mr. President, Recently one of my terminally ill patients received a get well card from you and I would like you to know that this very kind gesture has made a tremendous difference in the attitude of this severely depressed man. Before your card Mr. Judicini had no will to live; now, he is looking forward to being discharged from the hospital and joining his family at home. Thank you."